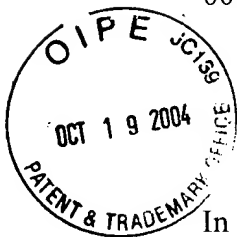


ITW
1632

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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: Joseph T. Voitach
TETSUYOSHI ISHIWATA et al.)
: Group Art Unit: 1632
Application No.: 09/730,559)
: Filed: December 7, 2000)
: For: IgA NEPHROPATHY-RELATED)
GENES : October 18, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CLAIM TO PRIORITY

Sir:


Further to the Petition for Extension of Time and Amendment filed on October 7, 2004 in the above-identified application, Applicants hereby claim priority under the International Convention and all rights to which they are entitled under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based upon the following Japanese Priority Application:

No. PCT/JP97/04468 filed December 5, 1997

The original certified priority document is being filed contemporaneously in parent application No. 09/090,672. A copy of that priority document is enclosed.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence S. Perry", is written over a horizontal line.

Lawrence S. Perry
Registration No. 31,865
Attorney for Applicants

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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